WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A camera comprising:

a movable lens barrel movable between a collapsed position and at least one photographing position, contained in a camera body when in said collapsed position, set more forward when in said at least one photographing position than when in said collapsed position, for holding a taking lens;

a flash emitting unit movable between a contained position and a flashing position, contained in said camera body when in said contained position, disposed to protrude from said camera body when in said flashing position, and enabled to emit flash light to a photographic field;

a first biasing mechanism for biasing said flash emitting unit toward said contained position;

a slidable cover movable between a closed position and an open position, for covering a front of said movable lens barrel when in said closed position, and for uncovering said front of said movable lens barrel when in said open position;

a motor disposed in said camera body;

a transmission gear mechanism for transmitting motion from said motor to said movable lens barrel;

a flash shifter for moving said flash emitting unit between said contained position and said flashing position according to said motion derived from said transmission gear mechanism; and

a connection changer set in a first set position when said slidable cover is in said closed position, and set in a second set position when said slidable cover is in said open position, for discontinuing a transmitting connection

in elements from said transmission gear mechanism to said flash emitting unit when in said first set position, to prevent transmission of force of said first biasing mechanism to said transmission gear mechanism, and for maintaining said transmitting connection when in said second set position.

2. A camera as defined claim 1, wherein said connection changer discontinues said transmitting connection in said flash shifter.

3. A camera as defined claim 2, wherein said motor rotates forwards to move said movable lens barrel from said collapsed position to said photographing position, and rotates backwards to move said movable lens barrel from said photographing position to said collapsed position.

4. A camera as defined claim 3, wherein said flash shifter includes:

a ring-shaped gear, disposed about said movable lens barrel in a rotatable manner, meshed with said transmission gear mechanism, for rotating in a first direction when said motor rotates forwards, and for rotating in a second direction when said motor rotates backwards;

a transmission ring disposed about said movable lens barrel in a rotatable manner in said first and second directions;

a transmission mechanism for rotating said transmission ring in response to rotation of said ring-shaped gear;

a linking mechanism, responsive to rotation of said transmission ring, for moving said flash emitting unit to said flashing position with bias of said first biasing mechanism when said transmission ring rotates in said first

direction, and for moving said flash emitting unit to said contained position with said first biasing mechanism when said transmission ring rotates in said second direction.

5. A camera as defined claim 4, wherein said transmission mechanism includes:

at least one pressing projection formed with said ring-shaped gear;

a second biasing mechanism for biasing said transmission ring rotationally in said first direction;

at least one engaging projection formed with said transmission ring and adapted to contact said pressing projection, wherein when said ring-shaped gear rotates in said first direction, said second biasing mechanism causes said transmission ring to rotate in said first direction, and said engaging projection moves simultaneously with said pressing projection, and when said ring-shaped gear rotates in said second direction, said pressing projection causes said transmission ring to rotate in said second direction by pressing said engaging projection.

6. A camera as defined claim 5, wherein said slidable cover is moved back to said closed position after said motor is turned off, and responsively said connection changer causes said transmission ring further in said second direction, to set away said engaging projection from said pressing projection.

7. A camera as defined claim 6, wherein said connection changer includes:

a cover stopper movable between a stopping position and a releasing position, for retaining said slidable cover in said open position when in said stopping position, and for moving back from said stopping position to said

releasing position when said slidable cover moves from said open position to said closed position;

a third biasing mechanism for biasing said cover stopper toward said stopping position;

a projection formed to project from said transmission ring, having one lateral portion, wherein in moving back of said cover stopper from said stopping position to said releasing position, one portion of said cover stopper presses said lateral portion of said projection, for rotating said transmission ring in said second direction.

8. A camera as defined claim 7, wherein said lateral portion of said projection has an inclined face, and said one portion of said cover stopper has an include face for facilitating pressing of said one portion to said lateral portion.

9. A camera as defined claim 7, wherein when said movable lens barrel is set in said photographing position, a front portion of said projection is positioned behind said cover stopper, to block movement of said cover stopper from said stopping position to said releasing position, and when said movable lens barrel is set in said collapsed position, said projection moves to allow said cover stopper to move from said stopping position to said releasing position.

10. A camera as defined claim 9, wherein said slidable cover includes an engageable portion formed therewith, wherein when said slidable cover is set in said open position, said engageable portion is engaged with a distal end of said cover stopper being set by said third biasing mechanism to said stopping position.

11. A camera as defined claim 10, wherein said cover stopper is rotatable about an axis which extends

perpendicularly to an axis about which said transmission ring is rotatable.

12. A camera as defined claim 10, wherein said linking mechanism further includes:

a shaft for rotationally supporting said flash emitting unit movably between said contained position and said flashing position;

a first shift lever for contacting one portion of said transmission ring, and for rotating in response to rotation of said transmission ring in said second direction;

a second shift lever for being rotated in a third or fourth direction in response to rotation of said first shift lever;

a biasing mechanism for connecting said first and second shift levers with one another for rotation thereof together, and for allowing said second shift lever to rotate in said third direction when said flash emitting unit moves from said contained position forcibly to said flashing position during a stop of said first shift lever; and

an arm, formed on said flash emitting unit, for contacting said second shift lever, wherein when said second shift lever rotates in said third direction, said arm is caused by said first biasing mechanism to move said flash emitting unit toward said flashing position simultaneously with said second shift lever, and when said second shift lever rotates in said fourth direction, said arm is pressed by said second shift lever to move said flash emitting unit toward said contained position.